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The British Apollo:

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

Perform'd by a SOCIETY of GENTLEMEN.

From **Monday** April 9th. to **Wednesday** April 11th. 1711.

APOLLO,

Q.

Deſire your Opinion whether there is any Text either in the New or Old Teſtament that favours the preſent Expectation of the Jews, *of their Reſtitution to their Temporal Kingdom in* Paleſtine.

A. The Predictions concerning it in the Old Teſtament are not ſo clear as to afford any Argument to be drawn from them. From the New Teſtament it is clear indeed, that it was the Opinion even of *Chriſt*'s Diſciples, as well as of the whole Nation of the *Jews*, that the *Meſſiah* was to reſtore them to that Temporal Power which was then taken from them by the *Romans*. For it was in this Temporal Kingdom of the *Meſſiah* that the two Sons of *Zebedee* deſired to ſit on both Hands of their Maſter. It was the ſame that *Cleophas* and his Companion ſpake of, *Luke*, 24. 21. *We truſted*, that *Jeſus* wou'd have proved the Perſon, *which ſhou'd have redeemed Iſrael*, meaning undoubtedly from its Subjection to the *Romans*. And to the ſame Purpoſe the Apoſtles aſſembled together after Chriſt's Reſurrection, put this Queſtion to him, *Acts* 1. 6. *Lord wilt thou at this Time reſtore the Kingdom to Iſrael?* Now, our Saviour's ſuffering his Followers all along to entertain this Opinion, and never once undeceiving them, ſeems to be an Argument favouring the preſent Expectation of the *Jews*, upon Condition, it may be preſumed, of their Converſion at laſt to Chriſtianity. Nay, the very Anſwer which our Saviour gives his Apoſtles Queſtion ſeems to imply at leaſt a Poſſibility of the Reſtitution of their Kingdom, though he did not think fit to ſatisfy them concerning the Time when it ſhou'd be done.

Q. *What is the Reaſon that Quick-ſilver, Spirit of Wine, Brandy, and other Liquors of the ſame ſort, do not freeze as well as Water and Oil?*

A. In order to underſtand this, it will be neceſſary to give a ſhort Account of the Cauſe of Ice in general. Experience demonſtrates that there are in Water an infinite Number of ſmall Particles of Air: For if an open Veſſel full of Water be placed in an Air-Pump, as the Air is pumped out of the Machine, the Water will be ſeen to bubble up, and to ſend forth a great Quantity of groſs Air. Now it is known and ſufficiently proved by Philoſophers that every Particle of Air has in itſelf an Elaſtick Force or the Vertue of a Spring. Suppoſing then that a Multitude of ſuch Springs have more Force in cold Weather, and that they unbend themſelves in Proportion to the Degree of Cold, it will not be difficult to conceive, that the unbending of the Springs, together with the Preſſure of the external Air upon the Surface of the Water, will lock up the Particles of Water, with which they are intermixted, on all Sides, and ſo form them into a hard Body. That the Springs of the Air do thus really unbend or dilate themſelves in *Winter* is proved from their taking up then a larger Space in Water: For the Bubbles of Air which are imperceptible in the Water while it continues liquid, are upon its Freezing rendred viſible. The Reaſon of which can be no other than the Dilatation of thoſe Particles of Air, or the unbending of its Springs. As therefore thoſe Springs unbend themſeves, they muſt preſs againſt one another the ſmall Parts of Water which they hold ſhut up. This being admitted, all the *Phænomena* of Ice may be eaſily explained. Particularly the Reaſon why the Spirit of Wine, Brandy, and other Liquors of the ſame ſort, do rarely if ever freeze, is, that their Parts being in a quick Motion, as is evident from their ſudden Evaporation, it follows, that the Air interſperſed in thoſe Liquors, is much more ſubtil and conſequently has leſs Elaſticity, than that which is interſperſed in common Water or Oil, ſince the Spring of the Air is principally in its groſs Parts. But the Reaſon why Quick-ſilver does not freeze is different from the other; and that is that the Parts of it are extremely ſmooth and poliſhed, ſo that they can eaſily ſlide againſt or by one another, without embaraſſing or ſtopping one another. It muſt be conſidered alſo that Quick-ſilver being a very denſe Fluid, the groſſer Particles of Air cannot inſinuate themſelves into it, and therefore cannot affect it with the bending or unbending of their Springs.

Q. *What is the meaning of the Word* Commentaries? *and why does* Cæſar *call the excellent Hiſtory of his Exploits by that Name?*

A. Commentaries ſignify a ſimple and naked Account of Events and Actions, without the Motives and Deſigns, the Councils, Speeches, Occaſions and Pretexts of Buſineſs. It was therefore with more Modeſty than juſt Propriety of Speech, that *Cæſar* applied the Name of *Commentaries* to his incomparable Hiſtory, which for its eaſy, ſweet and flowing Stile, and the Dignity of the Matter itſelf, is in the Judgment of King *James* the Iſt to be recommended to the peruſal of Princes, before all other profane Authors. Mr. *Rapin* informs us that this Author has had the Honour of having two of the greateſt Kings of *France*, *viz. Henry* IV. and the preſent *Lewis* XIV. employed in Tranſlating that Part of his *Commentaries* which treats of the Wars in *Gaul*.

Q. Gentlemen, *I hear a Conſort of Muſic is to be perform'd every Night, and to begin next Week, do you think the Town is likely to bear the Charge of keeping it up ſo often in theſe Times?*

A. We are apt to think you are miſinform'd, for we cannot think any rational Man wou'd propoſe ſuch a Thing. For if it be 5 *s.* a Ticket, ſuch a priz'd Conſort, coh'd be maintain'd but once a Week formerly, before the Nation was ſo much drein'd; and ſhou'd it be but 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a Ticket, then that wou'd not be ſufficient to pay the beſt Performers, and ſo it

wou'd fall of Courſe; beſides ſhou'd it be under 5 *s.* *per* Ticket, the Company of Quality wou'd be broke in upon by Inferior Perſons, and the firſt by Conſequence drop it, and 'tis notorious, a weekly Conſort cannot be kept up by any but them. We may further Remark, that when a Conſort was kept up once a Week at *York-Buildings*, Mr. *Finger*, the Compoſer, had greater Patrons to promote it by their Intereſt than perhaps any of our preſent Maſters can propoſe to themſelves; beſides in thoſe Times there was very indifferent Muſic at the Theaters: But then the Maſters of the Stage obſerving what Detriment the Muſic Meetings prov'd to them; by degrees they improv'd the Muſic at the Theaters, and as that was improv'd ſo the Muſic Conſorts ſunk by Degrees, till they had not Auditors enough to bear the Charge: Conſidering all which we think it prepoſterous for any Perſon to propoſe the keeping up a Conſort now, tho' but once a Week; for it is not reaſonable to imagine, that now they have got as good Hands at the Stage as can be obtain'd for the Conſort, nay, perhaps better, that any Perſon will continue to give more to hear a bare Conſort, than for a Play, when alſo they will hear as good or better Muſic. Yet it is not much to be wonder'd at if there may be ſuch a Deſign on Foot, ſince not one Project in ten, anſwers the Undertakers Ends.

POEMS.

Q. *THO't may appear odd,*
To accoſt thus a God,
Yet APOLLO *I'll make my* Confeſſor;
Which may appear more,
Than offer'd before,
By any moſt zealous Addreſſer.

And yet I believe,
By the Proofs which you give,
That it is very much in your Nature,
To hear her Complaint,
(Tho' ſhe be not a Saint)
When't comes from a Female Young Creature.

My Caſe it is this,
(And no new one 'tis)
My Maidenhead *ſome Years I've loſt,*
And tho' I've had Pleaſure,
I've reap'd no great Treaſure,
Can give me no Occaſion to boaſt.

Henceforth I intend,
My Manners to mend,
That's if I Encouragement find;
And 'mongſt your Sex can
But meet with a Man
Who exactly may ſuit with my Mind.

At this time there be,
Who makes Love to me,
A Taylor, a Smith and a Baker,
And all theſe I know,
I can bring to my Bow,
I am ſuch a ſhrewd Undertaker.

Now without Haranguing,
Like Mortals at Hanging,
In ſumming up Liſts of their Crimes,
And how they have been,
The Occaſion of Sin,
And Lewdly Debauching the Times.

In plain Senſe pray ſay,
Which Card I ſhall play,
I mean which for Husband to take;
They're Honeſt I'm told,
And Maſters of Gold,
Nor reliſh the leaſt of the Rake.

A. The *Taylor* ne'er can,
Write himſelf a full Man,
And ſince you to ſuch have been us'd,
We fear in the End,
He'll be no good Friend,
Since liable to be abus'd.

The *Smith* is by Nature,
A Choleric Creature,
So much being us'd to the Fire,
And if what you own,
Shou'd chance to be known,
He may diſappoint your Deſire.

The *Baker*, O fye,
With a Meal Bag you'll lye,
Which your Furbelow-Scarfe will deface;
And that will declare,
Whoſe Trinket you are,
And your Conjugal Whimſy diſgrace.

Beſides ſince all three,
Such honeſt Lads be,
Your Principles will not accord,
For none except Drunk,
Can doat on a Punk,
So your Lives little Pleaſure afford.

Till a Change then we find,
Fuller wroughr in your Mind,
And ſuch as reproving will bear,
Leaſt others you make,
Forlorn for your ſake,
We adviſe you to keep as you are.

The Title, Preface and Index to the Third Volume, are a preparing for the Preſs, and will be publiſhed in a ſhort Time. Sold by *J. Mayo*, againſt *Water-Lane*, *Fleet-ſtreet*; where you may have the Firſt Volume in 8vo. at 6 *s.* the 2d. and 3d. in Folio, Gilt Edges and Letter'd on the Back, at 12 *s.* each.

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